



Airman hits high note in global talent contest

By Bob Hieronymus
Wingspread staff writer

Senior Airman Dwayne Perry, currently assigned to the Air Education and Training Command Network Operations Security Center, won the first place male vocalist award in this year's Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest.

Airman Perry, whose hometown is Waldorf, Md., submitted an audition tape for the annual competition held this year at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and made that first important cut. He reported in for 10 days of testing and auditions and then performed before the judges, including Tom Edwards, the Air Force entertainment director.

Winning this contest made Airman Perry eligible to apply for one of the 35 spots on the Tops in Blue show team, the Air Force's premier entertainment troupe.

This was no surprise to his proud parents who have watched him perform since he was in seventh grade. He often sang for high school and church events and is currently cutting his first solo compact disc.

"I really like rhythm and blues styles, along with gospel music," he said. "But having the chance to sing with Tops in Blue is a once in a life time opportunity."

But there is a cloud to rain on his parade. Airman Perry completes his first four-year enlistment this fall, while Tops in

See **High Note** on page 6



Freedom Flyer Reunion
April 1, 2005

Photo illustration by Steve White

Former POWs hold reunion

By Bob Hieronymus
Wingspread staff writer

The annual reunion of the Freedom Flyers, repatriated prisoners of the Vietnam War, takes place today with an informational symposium in the base theater starting at 9 a.m.

Lt. Col. Michael Kennedy, commander of the 560th Flying Training Squadron that hosts the event, invites Randolph military and civilian members to attend the symposium and a wreath-

Freedom Flyer Reunion Events

9 a.m.	POW/MIA Symposium in theater
Noon	Wreath laying at base operations
12:45 p.m.	Static display at Hangar 12
6 p.m.	Flyover review

laying ceremony, as well as to view a static display of historical and modern military aircraft on the east ramp later in the day.

See **Reunion** on page 6



Male vocalist winner Senior Airman Dwayne Perry performs at the Lackland Air Force Base Bob Hope Performing Arts Center March 12 during Show Production 2 of the Air Force Worldwide Talent Contest. (Photo by Alan Boedeker)

12th FLYING TRAINING WING TRAINING TIMELINE									
As of Monday Pilot Instructor Training			Navigator, EWO training				Wing Flying Hour Program		
Squadron	Senior Class	Overall	562nd FTS		563rd FTS		Aircraft	Required	Flown Annual
99th FTS	3.5	1.8	Air Force	313	Undergraduate	42	T-1A	5807.0	5815.4 12,184
558th FTS	-4.3	0.2	Navy	77	International	8	T-6A	8363.2	8291.4 17,290
559th FTS	-2.0	-3.0	International	0	EWC Course	0	T-37B	4431.8	4357.8 8,284
560th FTS	-1.3	-0.6	NIFT	34	Fundamentals	0	T-38C	4841.9	4511.5 9,729
							T-43	2044.0	2039.9 4,293
Numbers reflect days ahead or behind for senior pilot instructor training class and an average for all PIT classes currently in training.			Numbers reflect students currently in training. The 562nd shows source of navigator students. Air Force students include Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard. The 563rd indicates students in specific courses.				The required and flown numbers reflect hours flown between Oct. 1, 2004 to date. The annual numbers are total hours for fiscal year 2005.		

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Graphic by Michelle DeLeon

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Commander's Action Line

Call 652-5149 or e-mail
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While our goal is to provide the best programs, products and services to our customers, there will be instances when people believe we could have served them better.

In those cases, I ask the individual to first contact the responsible organization to allow the unit commander or manager an opportunity to ensure professional and impartial treatment.

When those officials are unable to provide satisfaction, the individual may contact me through the Action Line. I will ensure each Action Line call is looked into and a reply is given by telephone or in writing. I ask callers to include their name and telephone number so we may send a personal response.

Col. John Hesterman
12th Flying Training Wing commander

Agency contact numbers	
12th FTW IG	652-2727
12th FTW Legal Office	652-6781
Base Exchange	674-8917
Civil Engineers	652-2401
Civilian Pay	652-6480
Commissary	652-5102
EEO Complaints	652-3749
Equal Opportunity	652-4376
FW&A Hotline	652-3665
Housing Maintenance	652-1856
Military Pay	652-1851
Randolph Clinic	652-2933
Safety Office	652-2224
Security Forces	652-5509
Services	652-5971
Straight Talk	652-7469
Transportation	652-4314

View from the Top

Every Day is Wingman Day

By Gen. Don Cook

Commander of Air Education and Training Command



Gen. Don Cook

In December, we took a down day to combat accidental deaths and suicides in the Air Force. However, Wingman Day was never intended to be a one-time "event." Rather, it was a reminder to be good wingmen every day.

The wingman concept extends to another issue we're confronting – reintegrating Airmen into "home station life."

Very shortly, the Air Staff will release policy to assist commanders in effectively reintegrating Airmen after they return from deployments. As you may know from speaking with redeploying troops, their stress is real. Consider the Airmen performing the highly dangerous mission of convoy security or serving on critical care air transport teams for the seriously wounded. These courageous people have personally experienced the horrors of war, and they deserve the fullest support when they return home.

So with the arrival of the Air Force policy, it will be up to all of us to turn

this guidance into action. We need to take care of Airmen returning from the taxing challenges of a deployed environment. This is especially important in AETC, where our Airmen often lack the familiarity and security of deploying with their organizations. How can you help?

First – Commanders, emphasize face-to face contact with your redeploying troops – and set the example.

Second – Have your Airmen take advantage of base agencies ready to support them and assist those struggling with reintegration.

Third – I ask those Airmen who have felt the hardships of reintegration to use your experience to coach and counsel those who have recently redeployed.

Fourth – First Sergeants and supervisors should follow up. Research shows troops typically begin to manifest problems 3 to 6 months after they redeploy. Monitor this period closely to prevent challenges from becoming emergencies.

Finally – Everyone, don't forget about taking care of our Air Force families.

Reintegrating into family life after a deployment can be tough. I've been there. Often the only one who will know how an Airman and family members are coping with reintegration is the Airman's co-worker or friend. Thus, every Airman must be a wingman...that's the culture of expeditionary-minded wingman!

And every day must be Wingman Day. We will lean heavily on this principle of airmanship as we answer our nation's call to duty. We will be tested in the fire of expeditionary warfare abroad and the pressure of resource constraints at home – all the more reason to integrate a wingman mindset into everything we do.

Embracing our Randolph heritage

By Lt. Col. Michael Kennedy

560th Flying Training Squadron commander

What a rich heritage we enjoy at Randolph Air Force Base.

Since the early 1930s, Randolph has been the center of aviation education. From training young Army Air Corps cadets to become pilots, to training the world's best flying training instructor pilots and navigators, Randolph-based personnel have accumulated an enviable heritage which **provides a foundation on which to build ... it grounds us.**

Brigadier General Frank P. Lahm,

chief of the Army Air Corps in the late 1920s and early 1930s, was a key force in developing Randolph as a flying training center. The general was determined to bring the discipline associated with West Point to the center of early aviation education. In fact, Randolph came to be known as the "West Point of the Air," a moniker just as applicable today, as flight discipline is the foundation for our flightline training.

Who cares, you might ask ... you should!

If you are assigned to Randolph, this heritage belongs to you. It is your mission to embrace it, appreciate it

and pass it on to others.

Our heritage is all about **history and perspective**. Did you know a young Army Air Corps motor pool dispatch officer helped design our beautiful base more than 75 years ago? First Lieutenant Harold Clark, who had previously completed flying training in 1918, put his interest in architecture to good use by helping design Randolph in his free time ... on the back of dispatch sheets, so the legend goes.

Impressed by the lieutenant's design, General Lahm put Lieutenant Clark to

See Heritage on page 3

Congratulations Retirees

Today
Chief Master Sgt. Lawrence Watkins
Air Education and Training Command

Today
Chief Master Sgt. Ken Kowalski
Air Force Recruiting Service

Today
Henry Williford
Air Education and Training Command

Retirement announcements should be submitted to the *Wingspread* office by noon Friday two weeks prior to the desired date of publication. E-mail announcements to randolph.retiree.messages@randolph.af.mil or fax them to 652-5412. For more information, call the *Wingspread* office at 652-5760.

Work continues to eradicate assaults at academy

By Michael Dominguez
Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – The Department of Defense published cadet survey results from the nation's three service academies March 18 that show cadets' and midshipmen's perceptions of a variety of character-related issues, including the sexual assault climate, at their respective institutions.

Some may see good news in the Air Force statistics, but even though we are encouraged the trend is moving in the right direction, we are not satisfied. The fact that we have any incidents of sexual assault at our academy -- even though these stats show our rates are down -- is not "good" news. We still have work to do, and what we learn can benefit the rest of this country as other institutions of higher education face the same challenges.

To put the service academy results in context, I invite you to examine the results of a U.S. Department of Justice-sanctioned research report titled "The Sexual Victimization of College Women" by B. Fisher, F. Cullen, and M. Turner, dated December 2000.

The Fisher Study (named for its principal author) is widely considered the most methodologically sound investigation on sexual assault at college campuses. It concluded that 1 in 5, perhaps as many as 1 in 4 college-age women will experience some form of rape or attempted rape during their college career. The study also states nationally more than 15 percent of college women are sexually victimized on an annual basis; that is, sexual contact is completed with force, threat of force or some other type of coercion.

Although I am convinced our military academies provide the safest undergraduate environments in the world, we will not be satisfied until sexual assault and the behaviors that foster it are eradicated from our military institutions. This is especially significant, because we, along with the rest of the nation, properly hold the military services to a higher standard.

We are confident we have the right leadership team in place at the Air Force Academy. Led by Lt. Gen. John Rosa, they are making significant strides toward achieving our goals:

1. Making commanders at all levels responsible for actively overseeing the effectiveness of our programs.
2. Eliminating sexual assault and any environmental factors that foster it.
3. Providing an environment where victims have the confidence to report assaults.
4. Ensuring appropriate investigations and prosecutions are conducted in a timely manner, and foremost,
5. Providing for victims' health and well-being.

As a leading national institution, America's armed forces embody the best of our nation's ideals. This often places us at the forefront in leading positive change within our society. We led our nation in integration and civil rights more than 50 years ago. We were on the leading edge in pursuing gender equality. And, we take that charge again now as we attempt to eradicate sexual assault from our service academies, with great hope that all institutions of higher education have equally ambitious aspirations.

Above all, we will continue to develop leaders of character ready to serve our nation in the profession of arms. As such, we accept that it is our responsibility to take a leadership role in finding solutions to this troubling national issue. We will not rest until we can look every American in the eye and tell them that their sons and daughters are safe at our academy and are receiving the very best education and training we can provide them as they aspire to be the leaders we need for the 21st century.

Heritage Cont'd from Page 2

work developing and implementing his design. Puts a little different perspective on things as you take in Randolph's wonderful Spanish Colonial architecture, doesn't it? This history is part of Randolph's heritage ... a heritage that observes its 75th anniversary this year on June 20.

Our heritage also provides a source of **motivation and inspiration**. Take

for instance, the 99th Flying Training Squadron that draws its heritage from the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II fame. These American heroes time and again successfully escorted bombers to targets in Europe, yet they were subject to segregation and discrimination as black Americans back home.

Despite the injustice, they persevered. Randolph was not home to the 99th Fighter Squadron during World War II, but it is home to the 99th now, and the squadron's legacy continues to inspire us.

Randolph's heritage offers us a **sense of pride and accomplishment** as well. Between 1973 and 1975, the 560th Flying Training Squadron requalified to flying status more than 140 former Vietnam War prisoners of war. Randolph was the POWs' first assignment in freedom following years of captivity.

The Freedom Flyers, as the POWs came to be known, continue to relate the wonderful memories and friendships forged during their time at Randolph.

Today, Randolph continues to take

great pride in the accomplishment of the Freedom Flyer program and is honored each year to be joined by these heroes during the annual Freedom Flyer Reunion. This year's event takes place today. See the story on page 1 for the details.

Motivation, inspiration, pride and accomplishment fuel the stewardship of our proud heritage. Our charge is to keep the flame alive. By embracing our heritage, we build upon a rock-solid foundation as we press into the future...perhaps creating the legacy for which we will be known.

News

Kodak moment



Master Sgt. Scott Wagers, Airman Magazine photographer, works to get the perfect shot during a photo shoot in front of the Air Force Personnel Center March 28. More than 100 AFPC people from the Directorate of Assignments and Directorate of Civilian Personnel Operations participated. The photo will be used in the May issue of Airman Magazine featuring AFPC. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. James Brabenec)

Lieutenants picked for promotion

Eight Randolph lieutenants recently received the good news they were selected for promotion to the rank of captain. They are among 848 lieutenants selected out of 856 eligible Air Force wide. The entire list is available on the Air Force Personnel Center's Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/offprom/.

The promotees are:

- Air Education and Training Command**
Tanya Garcia
Kenneth Gerst
- 12th Flying Training Wing**
Jennifer Powell
- 12th Security Forces Squadron**
Tiffany Edge
- 12th Contracting Squadron**
Richard Hulun
- 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron**
Carmen LaDrew
- 12th Medical Support Squadron**
Ronald Vesey
- Electronic Systems Center**
Anthony Branick



Ensign Charles Abbott
P-3
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. Michael Blohm Jr.
C-130H
Dyess AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. Tyler Bolin
RC-135
Offutt AFB, Neb.



Ensign Ian Burgess
EP-3
NAS Rota, Spain



2nd Lt. Corby Carlson
B-52
Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Christopher Chester
E-3 AWACS
Kadena AFB, Japan



2nd Lt. John Coveney
B-52
Barksdale AFB, La.



Ensign Mannewell Darby
P-3
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. Kevin Eklund
C-130
Little Rock AFB, Ark.



2nd Lt. Lee Ethridge
RC-135
Offutt AFB, Neb.



Ensign Christina Evans
P-3
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. James Forrest
C-130
Dyess AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. Brian Fricke
RC-135
Offutt AFB, Neb.



Ensign Ann Gilson
P-3
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



Ensign Sean Glarner
P-3
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. Brandon Grover
B-52
Barksdale AFB, La.



Ensign Robert Hills
P-3
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



Ensign Patricia Holt
EP-3
NAS Whidbey Island, Wash.



Ensign Patrick Hudock
EP-3
NAS Whidbey Island, Wash.



Ensign Cale Johnson
P-3
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



Ensign Karie Johnson
EP-3
NAS Whidbey Island, Wash.



Ensign Nathan Keilholz
EP-3
NAS Rota, Spain



2nd Lt. Jason Kindler
C-130
Pope AFB, N.C.



2nd Lt. James Lamb
RC-135
Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. Matthew Mazzarello
E-8 Joint stars
Robbins AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Willaim McCarty
C-130
Yokota AB, Japan



2nd Lt. Benjamin Payne
C-130
Selfridge ANGB, Mich.



2nd Lt. Kyle Porter
HC-130
Moody AFB, Ga.



Ensign Matthew Reese
P-3
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



Ensign Patrick Ronan
P-3
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. Benjamin Seedall
KC-135
McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. David Smith
EC-130
Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



Ensign Benjamin Vincent
P-3
NAS Jacksonville, Fla.



2nd Lt. Trevor Williams
C-130
Pope AFB, N.C.



1st Lt. Frederick Young
C-130
130 AW, Charleston, W.Va.

JSUNT graduation set for today

Twenty-one Air Force and 15 Navy aviators receive their navigator and naval flight officer wings during a Joint Specialized Undergraduate Navigator Training graduation ceremony here today.

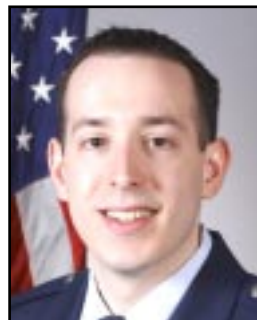
The ceremony is at 10 a.m. in the Randolph Officers' Club.

The guest speaker is Brigadier General Richard Perraut Jr., Air Education and Training Command director of plans and programs.

As director, he is responsible for command supervision of planning, programming, mission and systems requirements, studies and analysis and management improvement actions affecting

AETC's 100,000 military and civilian personnel located at 13 bases.

Col. George Duda, 12th Flying Training Wing vice commander, is presenting the students with their respective service's silver wings or gold wings, as well as presenting four special awards during the ceremony for student achievement.



2nd Lt. Jonathan Zannis
AC-130
Hurlburt Field, Fla.

After 24 years, VIA may end Randolph bus service

Officials at VIA, the greater San Antonio metropolitan transit authority, announced March 24 that 24 years of bus service to Randolph may end in August if ridership does not increase.

Since 1981, VIA has operated Bus Route 638 between the base and the Randolph Boulevard Park and Ride at the I-35 and Loop 410 interchange. Buses on that route make two runs in the morning and two in the afternoon to and from the base.

According to VIA figures, the buses have averaged less than 10 passengers a day in the past year, which is not enough to justify continuing the service, officials said.

The peak number of average riders was 32 people per day in 1982.

In order to keep the route running, at least 25 people need to ride the bus each day. If this level of ridership is not reached by June, VIA will cancel Route 638 and

end its transportation service to Randolph, officials said.

To give people the opportunity to provide input about Route 638 and service to Randolph, VIA is holding public hearings April 12 at 5:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. at the Randolph Boulevard Park and Ride.

People can register comments by calling 362-2020 or by visiting VIA's Web site at www.viainfo.net.

Reye's Syndrome potential risk for children

By Maj. Lorraine Barton
12th Medical Operations Squadron

This time of year there are many viruses traveling around the schools and daycares. The 12th Medical Group has recently seen many sick children with a variety of viral illnesses.

The best defense against these illnesses is thorough and frequent hand washing. Parents should teach their children never to share drinks with friends and classmates, to always cover their mouth and nose if coughing and/or sneezing, and to wash their hands often.

Teachers and daycare workers should also encourage children to wash their hands before eating, after using

the toilet and when the child is coughing or sneezing into their hands. Another way to prevent the spread of these infections is to keep a child home when they are sick, especially if they are running a fever.

High fevers can be a scary situation for parents. The influenza virus for example, is often associated with fevers of 103 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Parents naturally want to help their child during illness. However, some parents are reaching for the wrong medications and should remember that aspirin should not be given to children.

If a child is sick and has a fever, aspirin is never the first choice due to the possibility of Reye's syndrome. Reye's syndrome is a potentially life threatening disorder of the brain and liver. Although the exact cause is unknown, it has been associated with giving

aspirin to children with fevers, especially during a viral illness such as the flu or chicken pox.

Acetaminophen (Tylenol) is a much safer alternative. Ibuprofen (Motrin or Advil) can also be given if the child does not already have an upset stomach, vomiting or diarrhea. Ibuprofen should always be taken with food to decrease the chance of stomach upset. Some parents may be tempted to alternate both Tylenol and Motrin products. Only do this at the direction of your healthcare provider.

In addition, these medications will only be effective if given at the correct dosage. Children's dosages are best calculated by weight, especially in children under 2 years of age.

Parents should contact their healthcare provider for the correct dosage for children.

Motorcyclists gather to raise awareness

By Jennifer Valentin
Wingspread staff writer

About 75 motorcycle enthusiasts and owners alike attended a motorcycle safety program Friday at the Air Education and Training Command conference center to learn more about safety when riding.

This was the first briefing held for registered motorcycle owners and riders who are assigned to the Air Force Personnel Center and Air Education and Training Command. The briefing highlighted safety guidelines for the riders, kicking off the 2005 riding season.

"We briefly talked about riding safety and personal preparation to ride as well as watching out for hazards in the riding environment, both on and off base," said Chief Master Sgt. Jack DeForrest, Headquarters AETC first sergeant and avid motorcyclist. "We used the event to remind the riders they must maintain situational

awareness to avoid hazards that occur unexpectedly while riding to avoid potentially fatal mistakes."

The goal of the event is to make sure Randolph's riders take every precaution to be safe while on the road, said the chief. The event encouraged safe riding, but it also focused on what could happen if safety is not a number one priority when riding.

The event was held so the riders from AFPC and AETC could come together and talk about safety while having fun looking at all of the motorcycles.

"We encouraged attendees to bring their bikes to show their support. About 25 bikes were on display," he added. "The Air Force Recruiting Service was able to provide their newest marketing tool, the Orange County Chopper built for the Air Force to resemble an F-22 fighter. It generated great interest with many of the attendees posing with the one-of-a-kind motorcycle for personal photos."

The event was also designed as part



People attending the motorcycle safety program next to Building 905 March 25 check out the new Air Force recruiting vehicle, a custom chopper from Orange County Choppers. The chopper will be on display Monday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the B-Xtra (Photo by Steve White)

of the Air Force Chief of Staff's vision to provide mentoring programs for base motorcyclists so they can mentor one another while increasing safety skills and safety-minded attitudes.

"The riders were enthusiastic to be there and were even asking when the next briefing was going to take place before this one even finished," said Chief DeForrest.



Shady work



Contractors install aircraft sun shelters on the east flightline March 23. The devices will be able to house 20 T-1A aircraft on the east ramp and 30 T-6A aircraft on the west ramp when installation is complete in June. When funding becomes available, the 12th Flying Training Wing will add more shelters to house 30 T-38C aircraft. The shelters will provide a sunshade for maintenance workers and aircraft while offering protection from severe weather with their metal roof construction. (Photo by Steve White)

Changes suggest pay for performance, increased retirement eligibility

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – Defense Department civilians soon will be paid for productivity rather than longevity, while in the future, servicemembers may be required to serve longer tours of duty and spend more time in the military before becoming eligible for retirement.

These initiatives are part of efforts by officials to transform DoD into a more agile and efficient organization for the 21st century, said Dr. David S.C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

Dr. Chu said the new National Security Personnel System slated for partial implementation in July will affect about 300,000 of the department's 700,000 civilian employees. Remaining DoD civilian employees are slated to move into the new system beginning around January 2007.

He said current civilian pay scales are based on how "long you've been around." Polls show the younger workers DoD officials are seeking to hire want a more performance-based compensation system.

"They want to join an organization where if you do more, you are rewarded," he said.

Performance for pay "is not an untried principle" at DoD, Dr. Chu said, noting several pay-for-performance pilot pro-

"We are really at (the) early stages in making this shift. Some of it requires legislative changes which we have not yet convinced the Congress to make."

Dr. David S.C. Chu
Undersecretary of Defense for personnel and readiness

grams have been tested through the years.

The system also gives managers the tools to hire new employees more quickly and more means to discipline underproducers.

Dr. Chu said such change is likely to be "upsetting" among a work force accustomed to the older personnel system. Managers who will supervise workers under NSPS will "require training and preparation in order for them to be effective," he said.

He asked DoD employees to be patient as the system is implemented, noting studies of pay-for-performance pilot programs have shown most workers like the new system.

After NSPS has been fully implemented, employees "will have a much happier work force," Dr. Chu said.

He said old civil service rules hamstrung supervisors and often caused servicemembers to be

employed for tasks that could be accomplished by civilian employees. Implementation of NSPS will allow more flexible use of civilian employees, while freeing up servicemembers to perform other important duties, Dr. Chu said.

Another initiative that is under study involves establishing longer duty tours for servicemembers, especially senior officers, he said. Some military leaders serve in their posts for too short a time, and many senior officer tours of duty span 18 to 24 months.

"They never have enough tenure to make transformational changes, to see them through to success," Dr. Chu said.

Another personnel change under consideration is increasing the years of service military members need to retire. Today's 20-year minimum required for military retirement "has become something of an 'automatic'

event" that began after World War II, he said. The requirement was established in conjunction with an "up-or-out" policy recommended by then-Army Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall that was designed to prune veteran servicemembers who had become ineffective partly because of increased age.

But Dr. Chu said today's servicemembers in their 40s and 50s are "physically fit" and are "able to do many of the things that are necessary" in the military environment. Consequently, "we need to have a system that allows them to serve ... on active service longer," he said, and that envisioned change "is one of the most difficult transformational challenges" DoD officials face.

"We are really at (the) early stages in making this shift," he said. "Some of it requires legislative changes, which we have not yet convinced the Congress to make."

Addressing the amount of military pay required to attract and retain quality servicemembers in the future, Dr. Chu said "if we don't keep up a vigorous, upfront compensation package, we will not succeed in the long term."

Achieving transformation requires having "a sharp and appropriate set of tools in your toolkit" and a willingness to adapt new methods of doing military business, he said.

High Note

Continued from Page 1

Blue is scheduled to be on tour. Because of his current Air Force specialty as a computer systems network boundary protection specialist, he is required to cross train into another career field in order to re-enlist. The training requirements and tour dates conflict, so he won't be able to make the tour this year.

"Airman Perry's been a top notch performer," said Tech. Sgt. Christopher Hanyes, NCOIC of the AETC NOSC and Airman Perry's supervisor. "He is one of my 'go to' guys. We go to him when we have questions. He's proven himself to be very professional."

Airman Perry is still singing in the rain. "Growing up in a loving home as a preacher's kid with two younger siblings, I learned how to take responsibility early. This delay in making Tops in Blue isn't going to stop me," he said. "I'll do what I have to for the re-enlistment and then try for the Tops in Blue competition next year."



Senior Airman Dwayne Perry works at his computer console in the Air Education and Training Command Computer Systems Squadron. (Photo by Steve White)

Reunion

Continued from Page 1

The wreath-laying takes place at base operations and includes a missing-man formation flyover by Randolph T-38 aircraft.

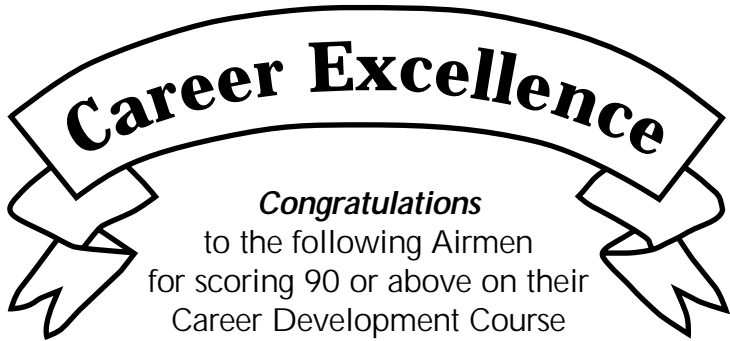
At press time, the following people were scheduled to discuss the topics shown at the symposium.

- Col. Ken Cordier, Moderator
- Col. Carlyle "Smitty" Harris, Tap Code
- Col. Jerry Driscoll, Hanoi March
- Lt. Col. Robert Jeffrey, Briar Patch
- Col. William Baugh, The "Great" Escape
- Col. Mo Baker, Hanoi Hilton
- Lt. Col. John Yuill, Linebacker II
- Mrs. Anne Fleenor, Wives in Waiting
- Col. Don Ellis, The Other Side of the Desk

The static aircraft display is expected to include an F-4, F-15, F-16, A-10, C-130, T-38, T-37, T-6, T-1, and a Vietnam War era MiG 21. Also on display will be the original C-141 "Hanoi Taxi" that brought the first load of repatriated prisoners, the "Freedom Flyers," home from Hanoi. This may be the last such visit by the Hanoi Taxi because it is reaching the end of its operational life.

Most of the static display aircraft will participate in a flyover of the base at 6 p.m. A B-52 and a B-1 are expected to join them in the flyover. The lineup will take 12 minutes to pass in review. It will be visible from anywhere on the base and from many areas near the base.

Shortly after the former POWs were repatriated in 1973, the 560th FTS was tasked with the responsibility for requalifying those Air Force pilots who would be returning to flying status. For 32 years, the 560th FTS has hosted these reunions. Colonel Ellis, who was commander of the 560th FTS when the requalification program began, will talk about the early years of the program.



Congratulations
to the following Airmen
for scoring 90 or above on their
Career Development Course
final exams during February.

Staff Sgt. Adrian Saenz - 95
12th Communications Squadron

Airman 1st Class Sean Barrett - 93
12th Mission Support Group

Senior Airman Jason Frebe - 93
12th MSG

Senior Airman Tyler Osborn - 93
12th MSG

Airman 1st Class Alexander Larsen - 92
12th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron

Airman 1st Class Lucia Bloom - 91
12th AMDS

Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Krumenauer - 90
Air Force Manpower Agency

A career development course, commonly referred to as a CDC, is a correspondence course the Air Force uses as part of on-the-job upgrade training for Airmen following technical school. CDCs provide training to transition Airmen from the apprentice to the journeyman skill level, otherwise referred to as going from a 3 to a 5 skill level in the person's Air Force career field. Eventually, Airmen return to technical training in residence to earn their craftsman, or 7-level, certification.

World War II 60th Anniversary commemorated

Events of conflict remembered by one who served in ‘Great War’

By Bob Hieronymus
Wingspread staff writer

Sunday, the city of San Antonio hosts a special ceremony honoring the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II and those who served in that great war. The public is invited to attend the event at 2 p.m. in the La Villita Assembly Hall, 401 Villita Street, in downtown San Antonio.

There are only six major events of this type around the nation, sponsored by the Department of Defense 60th Anniversary Commemoration Committee. San Antonio was chosen because of the large number of military people who were trained in south Texas during the war and its current large veteran population.

More than 17 million men and women served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II. Among American males over the age of 75 today, it is estimated that 50 percent of them are World War II veterans. It is not possible to honor all of them individually, but the following story of one Soldier represents the kind of determination and national commitment that made theirs the "Greatest Generation."

Sam and L-4 Number 72

"Sam, your airplane is too beat up to fix any more," the maintenance officer said. "We're going to use her for parts to keep the other planes flying."

Number 72 was just a little Piper Cub in wartime livery as an L-4 liaison airplane. Its 65 horse power engine still started on the first pull on the prop. The compression wasn't what it used to be and it had all sorts of patches, squeaks and rattles. But to Private Lindsey Sammons, nicknamed "Sam," it was his battle-tested friend.

Liaison aircraft were small, single-engine civilian planes adapted for military service. The Army bought thousands of them during World War II and used them for just about every kind of utility purpose the Army could think of, from artillery spotting, to aerial ambulance work, to courier service.

It was March 1945 when Number 72 flew its last mission into Clark Field in the Philippines. Sam's career as an enlisted pilot began less than a year before in New Guinea when he finally convinced his commander that he was qualified and could be of better service as a liaison pilot. After all, the government had already spent good



Private Lindsey Sammons circa 1943

money to put him through the Army Special Training Program flight school. **The War Begins for Sam**

Sam was drafted in June 1943, and instead of a flying assignment, he got orders for Camp Harahan, La., where he learned all about handling cargo on Army Transportation Corps ships. In addition to seamanship, the course included visual signaling, radio operations and packaging various kinds of munitions.

"I told the school staff I had a private pilot's license, but in the way that all military veterans remember ("Yes, Sir! No, Sir! How high, Sir!"), they said I would be working on the ships," he said.

February of 1944 found Private Sammons in New Guinea, where for a few weeks he was assigned to a Dutch freighter as a radio operator. Sending and receiving Morse code still wasn't flying, but at least it was clean work.

But good things seem to end too fast.

His orders were changed again. It was back to the docks for the sweaty work of loading and unloading the cargo ships that supported General Douglas MacArthur's island hopping campaigns in the South Pacific.

"Maybe it was my constant complaining about not being used according to my skills, but at any rate I was finally told to report to a special school for liaison pilots," Sam added, with a big grin. "We held classes on the beach. Our teacher was an Australian coast watcher who taught us map reading, combat radio procedures, and artillery spotting. I was thrilled to have the chance to fly again!"

After that school, Sam was finally assigned an airplane. It was an L-4, actually a Piper Cub painted olive drab. It was marked with a big Number 72, he said.

"I flew dozens of missions up and down the coast of New Guinea, carrying observers, medical supplies and just about anything the Army wanted moved by air," he said. "I didn't ask why or where. I was just happy to be flying."

Flying with the Invasion Forces

On Jan. 1, 1945, the Seventh Fleet sailed north toward Luzon Island.

"Our objective was Lingayen Gulf, north of Manila," Sam said. "After two days of heavy naval bombardment, the Japanese forces were supposedly battered enough to allow us to land. So on the morning of January 9, two of us took off from the LST to support the U.S. 37th and 40th Infantry Divisions that were going ashore that day."

He said the assault landing where

they were was uneventful because the enemy had pulled back from the beaches into the hills. He flew five or six missions the first day, directing artillery fire at enemy positions he could see and then landing on the beach to refuel. The second day everything stopped because a typhoon hit. The third day they flew to a little airstrip the Army engineers had just bulldozed out of the jungle for them.

"Every day I was assigned a sector to scout for enemy activity and radio in targets for our artillery gunners to hit," he said. "Sometimes I carried an artillery officer to do the spotting. Other times I had to do it alone. At first the Japanese troops would shoot at our little green airplanes, until they learned the hard way that the artillery followed wherever the little planes flew. After that they usually ducked for cover when they saw us."

Sam worked with two divisions as they pushed south as part of the spearhead General MacArthur ordered to drive hard into Manila to free the Americans prisoners of war held by the Japanese in the Santo Tomas prison.

"We had just secured the city when I got the order to turn in my airplane," Sam said. "I wasn't very happy about that, but it was still a 'Yes, sir! No, sir!' world. I found myself doing various administrative duties, but at least nobody was shooting at me. Then Japan surrendered and the war was over."

After the War

Later Sam was assigned to an occupation unit in Japan and was able to get on flying status again. For a couple months in early 1946, he flew different liaison aircraft transporting all kinds of senior people around Japan, but it didn't have the excitement of combat flying.

"And then it was back to the States where I was discharged like so many other soldiers," he said.

Sam didn't stay in civilian life long. He re-enlisted, made the transfer to the newly organized U. S. Air Force when the opportunity came in 1947, and spent a full, productive career there as a cryptographic specialist. He retired in 1965 as a master sergeant. He then completed a civilian career with the Air Force at Kelly Air Force Base, finally retiring for good in 1989.

"The war was an exciting time," Sam said, "but then everyone was involved in the war effort. We knew it was important and history has shown that we did it well."



An Army liaison airplane is prepared for take off from a temporary 14 foot-wide runway rigged onto a Navy landing ship during World War II. Liaison aircraft like these went in with combat troops during beach assaults and followed them during land operations to spot enemy positions, call in artillery strikes, deliver communications, carry wounded to hospitals and move critical supplies. Many liaison aircraft were flown by enlisted pilots. (Courtesy photo)

MSS perseveres, wins basketball title

By Jeff Palombo
Wingspread contributor

The Randolph Fitness Center's version of March Madness culminated March 24 with the crowning of 12th Mission Support Squadron as the 2005 intramural basketball champions following their win over a valiant Air Force Personnel Center team, 41-34.

The stage was set for a dramatic finale. The two teams that had been on a collision course since the tournament began faced off for all the marbles.

Because MSS had been undefeated throughout, including a win over AFPC, they would have to be beaten on consecutive games if AFPC was to claim the championship in this double-elimination tournament.

With that in mind, AFPC took the court with a mission to do something that no one in the tournament had done thus far: beat MSS. A tough task no doubt, but with Charlie Freeman exploding for a game-high 22 points, anything is possible.

"Leadership is my responsibility," said Freeman. "I am a starter for the Randolph Varsity and my coach always tells me to play like I am a varsity player and to never take the game for granted."

Despite trailing at halftime 21-25, AFPC pulled out a thrilling victory,



Angelo Mitchell of the 12th Mission Support Squadron pulls down a rebound in front of Brent Jordan of the Air Force Personnel Center during the Randolph intramural championship game March 24 at the fitness center. (Photo by Steve White)

outscored MSS 28-19 in the second half for the 49-44 win, forcing a sudden death championship game.

Along with the Freeman Show were huge contributions to the AFPC cause by Greg Walker, who scored 14, and Brent Jordan, who added 10.

In the losing effort, John Bone, Antwan Hopkins and Marc Povondra packed an impressive punch, pouring in 15, 15 and 10, respectively. However, it wasn't enough to stave off the determined team from AFPC.

Undaunted, 12th MSS would regroup in the deciding game.

"We wanted to get our focus back," said team captain Angelo Mitchell. "We weren't stressed or panicked. We knew it would be hard for them to beat us twice, given that they gave all they had in the first game."

Playing with remarkable poise and confidence for a team that had just lost its first tournament game, MSS effectively stopped AFPC in their tracks, cruising to a 41-34 win and the intramural championship.

"We have a lot of good players," added Mitchell. "On any given night somebody could step up and lead us."

On this night it was Jermaine Smith, the game's high scorer, who paced MSS with 16 points. On the AFPC side, Freeman and Walker did their part, combining for 23, but the rest of the team pulled a David Copperfield, disappearing in thin air.

Intramural Bowling Standings		
As of March 21		
Team	W	L
SVS	140	60
AFPC	129	71
JPPSO	120	80
AFPOA	118	82
AFSAT	117	83
AETC/SC	112	88
DFAS	110	90
AFMA	108	92
AETC/LG	105	95
AETC/FM	103	97
SVS TOO	98	102
AFSVA	98	102
AFPC/ESC	98	102
CS	97	103
SFS	95	105
LRS	94	106
CPTS	92	108
RS	90	110
AMO #1	89	111
MED GP	86	114
AETC 900	86	114
AMO TOO	82	118
AETC/DP	75	125
BYE	52	148

TEAM SCRATCH SERIES	
Team	Score
AFPC	2897
SVS TOO	2882
TEAM HANDICAP SERIES	
Team	Score
SFS	3504
AETC/DP	3379
TEAM SCRATCH GAME	
Team	Score
RS	1005
AFPOA	998
TEAM HANDICAP GAME	
Team	Score
SVS	1192
AMO	1185

SPORTS BRIEFS

Basketball honors

Six Randolph Ro-Hawks men's basketball players recently earned District 27 2A recognition.

Brandon Ervin was named district most valuable player; Will Kent was named 1st team all-district player; Sean Applewhite and Chris Goad were named 2nd team all-district players; and Zach Collins and Elliott Ortiz received honorable mentions.

Runner's clinic

The physical therapy clinic offers an intermediate runner's clinic the second Wednesday of every month from 3-4 p.m. at the health and wellness center, Hangar 71.

The class focuses on choosing the right running shoe for foot type and running style.

Call 652-2300 for more information.

Customer Appreciation Day

The fitness center is offering complimentary healthy snacks in the main lobby on Wednesday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. This event is open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders.

Softball coaches needed

The fitness center is looking for a men and women's softball coach for the 2005 season.

People interested in coaching can call the fitness center at 652-5316.

Muscle Mania rescheduled

Muscle Mania has been rescheduled from April 9 to May 7. Call 652-5316 for more details.

Crunch time



Airman 1st Class Iver Molver, 12th Operations Support Squadron, does situps during his workout at the base fitness center. The fitness center is hosting a sit up competition April 8 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event is open to all Department of Defense ID card holders. For more details on the upcoming competition, call 652-5316. (Photo by Steve White)

Hot wheels



Randolph is hosting its 7th Annual Car Show April 17 from noon to 5 p.m. in the clinic parking lot. The event features classic and modern vehicles. People who want to show a car can pre-register at the skills craft center, Building 895. The registration cost is \$25 or \$15 for active duty military E-4 and below. For more information on the show, call the auto skills center at 652-2952. (Courtesy photo)